

8011-01p SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-67296; File No. SR-C2-2012-019)

June 28, 2012

Self-Regulatory Organizations; C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Amend Rule 8.2 Regarding Market-Maker Registration Cost

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that, on June 15, 2012, C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated (the "Exchange" or "C2") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

C2 proposes to amend its Rule 8.2 regarding Market-Maker registration cost. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website

(<a href="http://www.c2exchange.com/Legal/">http://www.c2exchange.com/Legal/</a>), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission' Public Reference Room.

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of those statements may be examined at the places specified in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C.78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant parts of such statements.

# A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

## 1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend its Rule 8.2(d) regarding registration costs. An option class registration of a Market-Maker confers the right to quote in that product. Each Trading Permit held by a Market-Maker has a registration credit of 1.0. A Market-Maker may select for each Trading Permit the Market-Maker holds any combination of option classes, whose aggregate registration cost does not exceed 1.0. When the Exchange initially adopted language regarding registration costs, the Exchange designated every option traded on C2, except SPX, VIX, OEX, DJX, and XSP (the "Excluded Products"), to have a registration cost of .001, and stated that, if C2 determines to commence trading of any of the Excluded Products, it will file a proposed rule change to adopt registration costs for those products.<sup>3</sup> The Exchange now intends to commence trading of XSP, and set a registration cost for Market-Makers to quote in XSP of .001 (the same registration cost as all other options traded on C2 (except SPXPM)<sup>4</sup>). As such, the Exchange proposes to amend Rule 8.2(d) to delete the language that excludes SPX, VIX, OEX, DJX and XSP from having a registration cost of .001. Going forward, the registration cost for XSP will be .001 (like every other option traded on C2 except for SPXPM). Currently, the Exchange has no plans to list any of the other Excluded Products, but if that were to change, the registration cost for those products would also be set at .001. If the Exchange were to permit

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 63021 (September 30, 2010), 75 Fr 62159 (October 7, 2010) (SR-C2-2010-004).

See C2 Rule 8.2(d) and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 65452 (September 30, 2011), 76 FR 62123 (October 6, 2011) (SR-C2-2011-023).

trading of any of the Excluded Products and did not desire for the registration cost for one of those products to be .001, the Exchange would file a proposed rule change to adopt a different registration cost for such product (as would also be necessary under the current rules).

## 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.<sup>5</sup> Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>6</sup> requirements that the rules of an exchange be designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts, to remove impediments to and to perfect the mechanism for a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. Establishing a registration cost of .001 for XSP as well as the other Excluded Products is reasonable because it is equal to the registration cost of all other products traded on C2 (except SPXPM).

# B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

C2 does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

The Exchange neither solicited nor received comments on the proposed rule change.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

and (iii) become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>7</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.<sup>8</sup>

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

## IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

#### **Electronic Comments:**

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<u>http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</u>); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-C2-2012-019 on the subject line.

## Paper Comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>17</sup> CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-C2-2012-019. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet website (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the

Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should

submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer

to File Number SR-C2-2012-019 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from

publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated

authority.9

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

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17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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